

Abstract of the Invention

A printing press which comprises a number of different printing stations, each of which has an ink applicator for depositing ink, an adjacent first rotatable cylinder for receiving the ink in a nip therebetween, and at least a rotatable second cylinder over which passes the substrate to be printed upon in a nip between the substrate and a rotatable cylinder, which can be the first or another cylinder. At least one of the printing stations has a multi-layered flexible body attached to the periphery of the first cylinder. The multi-layered flexible body has an outermost layer which receives the ink, and which is secured to an innermost layer of a different material. The outermost layer is cut to provide spaced cut-out areas which leave outermost layer areas which project beyond the cut-out areas to form ink-applying areas to cover substrate areas to be printed upon, and which extend over areas much greater in size than any substrate areas which are to receive letters and/or numbers. At least another one of the printing stations has a rotatable ink-receiving first cylinder for receiving ink in a nip with the associated ink applicator, and which cylinder has a periphery for printing letters and/or numbers each of a size which is a fraction of the size of the areas which receive ink from the projecting outermost layer of the multi-layered flexible body.